

Application No.: 10/666,802

Docket No.: JCLA10645-R

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 5-7, 9-26, 30-32, 34-41, and 45-47 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Padole et al. (U.S. Patent 6,993,664; hereinafter Padole).

The Office Action rejected claims 2, 4, 27, 29, 42, and 44 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Padole and further in view of Pearce et al. (U.S. Patent 6,243,468; hereinafter Pearce).

The Office Action rejected claims 8, 33 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Padole and further in view of Nash (U.S. Patent 6,449,645; hereinafter Nash).

The Office Action rejected claims 3, 28 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Padole and Pearce, and further in view of Nash.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 19, 26, 27, 34 and 41, canceled claims 4, 29, 43, 44, and respectfully traverse the rejections addressed to all of the above rejected pending claims 1-3, 5-28, 30-42, 45-48 for at least the reasons set forth below.

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General Discussion of the Final Office Action

In previous remarks filed on Sep. 06, 2007, Applicant has submitted "Padole, when considered in its entirety, fails to teach 'a personal identity circuit for **holding a software serial number of a software and generating an inspection code in installing the software**' and 'the **new product registration center reset the inspection code according to the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number**'" (Emphasis added), and specifically, Applicant submits that "throughout the full context of Padole, there is no teaching of resetting the product ID (PID)".

In the current Final Office Action, the Examiner made "Response to Arguments" in response to Applicant's remarks filed on Sep. 06, 2007.

In the "Response to Arguments" section, the Examiner interprets the "product key" as reading on "the software serial number", and interprets the "PID" as reading on the "inspection code".

The Examiner recites the context of Padole "Unlocking rules allow the setting of an unlock limit based on various combination of the BPC, channel ID and country, and the unlock limit is the number of unlocks which can be issued against a PID", and then contended "the PIC is associated with the installation of the software in terms of the license, and when the PIC has been used by the activation authority, it is used to determine if unlocking rule (i.e., setting the unlock limit of the PID, resetting the unlock limit of the PID as license renews, etc ...)", and therefore "readjusting/resetting of the PID is associated with the number of unlocks embedded with the PID and/or license renewal (e.g., renewal the usage and number of unlocks).

However, the Examiner erred in interpreting the unlock limit as a part of the PID.

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Padole has taught "Unlocking rules allow the setting of an unlock limit", "the unlock limit is the number of unlocks which can be issued against a PID", but has never taught that the unlock limit could be a part of the PID. Please note, the unlock limit is the number of unlocks which can be issued **against a PID** (emphasis added). As such, the setting/adjusting/resetting of the unlock limit does not mean a resetting of a PID. At most, Padole teaches a number corresponding to a PID, rather than the PID itself, is to be reset.

Further, the addressed limitation requires: "the new product registration center reset the inspection code **according to the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number**".

As contended by the Examiner, the unlock limit is adjusted according to the previously unlocked times, rather than the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number. Please note, only after the confirmation of the product key, the step of setting the unlock limit could be performed. Therefore, the product key is a precondition in determining a certain PID corresponding to a certain unlock limit, and is not accorded to reset the PID or unlock limit. In other words, in the step of resetting an unlock limit, what is the product key is not a concern.

As such, Padole, when considered in its entirety, still fails to teach "a personal identity circuit for **holding a software serial number** of a software and **generating an inspection code in installing the software**" and "the new product registration center reset the inspection code **according to the software serial number and the communication equipment serial number**".

In response to the reminding in second paragraph on Page 20 of the Office Action, which

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states that "modification to clarify the limitation regarding how reset the inspection code in relationship to the software serial number and communication equipment serial number in the claim language is necessary for further consideration," Applicant respectfully submits amendments addressed to the claim language for clearly defining the invention over the cited references. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

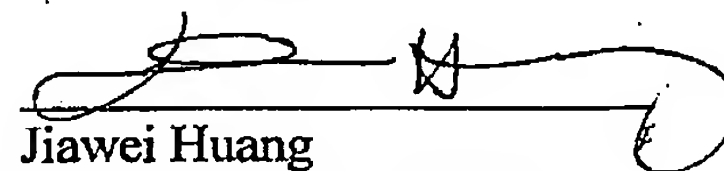
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-3, 5-28, 30-42, 45-48 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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